

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

While a pair of left/right observation points of a cladding removed portion of a polarization-maintaining optical fiber are being simultaneously observed, the polarization-maintaining optical fiber is rotated about the axis of the fiber. By doing so, aligning stress applying parts in regard to the polarization-maintaining optical fiber is performed so that the polarization directions may be oriented in the same direction along and with respect to the axis of the fiber.